

## Items of Interest.

—It is said that a number of Swiss Protestants have bought the house in which Zwingli was born. Their intention is to restore and preserve it as a memorial of the reformer.

—The following estimation was made by Humboldt: "The earth contained 56,000 species of plants, 51,000 species of animals, 44,000 species of insects, 4,000 species of birds, and 7,000 species of reptiles."

—The Tilden mine which employs 600 men and is situated at Bessemer, Mich., has closed down. It was impossible to make sales, because men are hoarding their money and buying nothing which can be done without until the Presidential election settles the money question one way or the other.

—It is stated that information gathered from the leading officials of forty-five railroads employing 200,000 men shows that without exception the companies regard habitual drinking as hurtful to the efficiency of the service, and that they forbid the use of intoxicants to employees while on duty. Fourteen of the roads require total abstinence from intoxicants for all men connected with train service.

—It will be an item of interest to our readers to know that the tendencies of business are toward improvement. This is due principally to the clearer outlook politically. There is however little increase in the volume of business. The returns of Clearing Houses at leading cities are about 18 per cent. less than a year ago. The principal feature outside of politics is large exports, small imports, the effect of which gives us a favorable balance of trade, and heavy gold imports. During the first two weeks of September our wheat exports amounted to 1,200,000 bushels, while during the same time last year it amounted to 923,000. The number of bales of cotton exported this year amounted to 66,355 bales more than during the same time last year.

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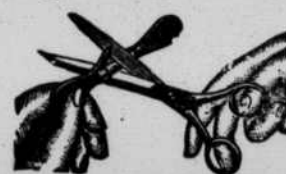
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